

(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB 2 242 180 (13) A

(43) Date of A publication 25.09.1991

(21) Application No 9003324.2

(22) Date of filing 14.02.1990

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(51) INT CL⁶
G09F 3/16

(52) UK CL (Edition K)
B6F FBE
E2A AGF AGU A351 A353 A362 A363 A370 A378
A423
U18 S1577 S1790 S2273 S2280 S2291

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(58) Field of search
UK CL (Edition J) B6F FBB FBC FBD FBE, E2A
AGF, G6C
INT CL⁶ G09F

(54) Ticket or label holder for container

(57) A ticket holder assembly has a base such as a plastics container wall 2 on a panel 3 of which a ticket 8 is to be displayed. A U-shaped clip 13 retains the ticket on the panel 3 and has legs 14, a foot 16 and a barbed detent 17. The clip is received within a slot 10 in a flange 6 of the container wall so that the detent 17 snap engages in a slot 11 on the flange 6. The aforementioned snap engagement holds the clip to the container wall with the foot 16 biased to abut that wall and this abutment provides a reaction through a seating of the clip in the flange 6 to bias the legs 14 into abutment with the panel 3 whereby the ticket 8 can be removably retained on the panel beneath the legs 14.

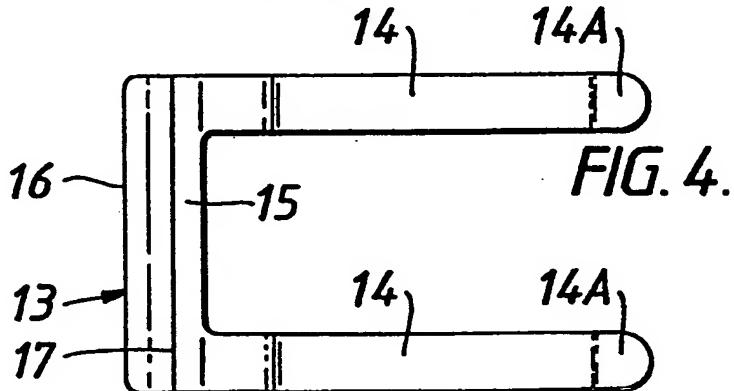
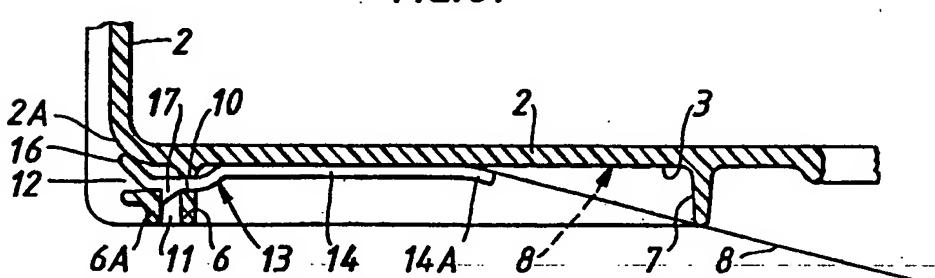


FIG. 4.

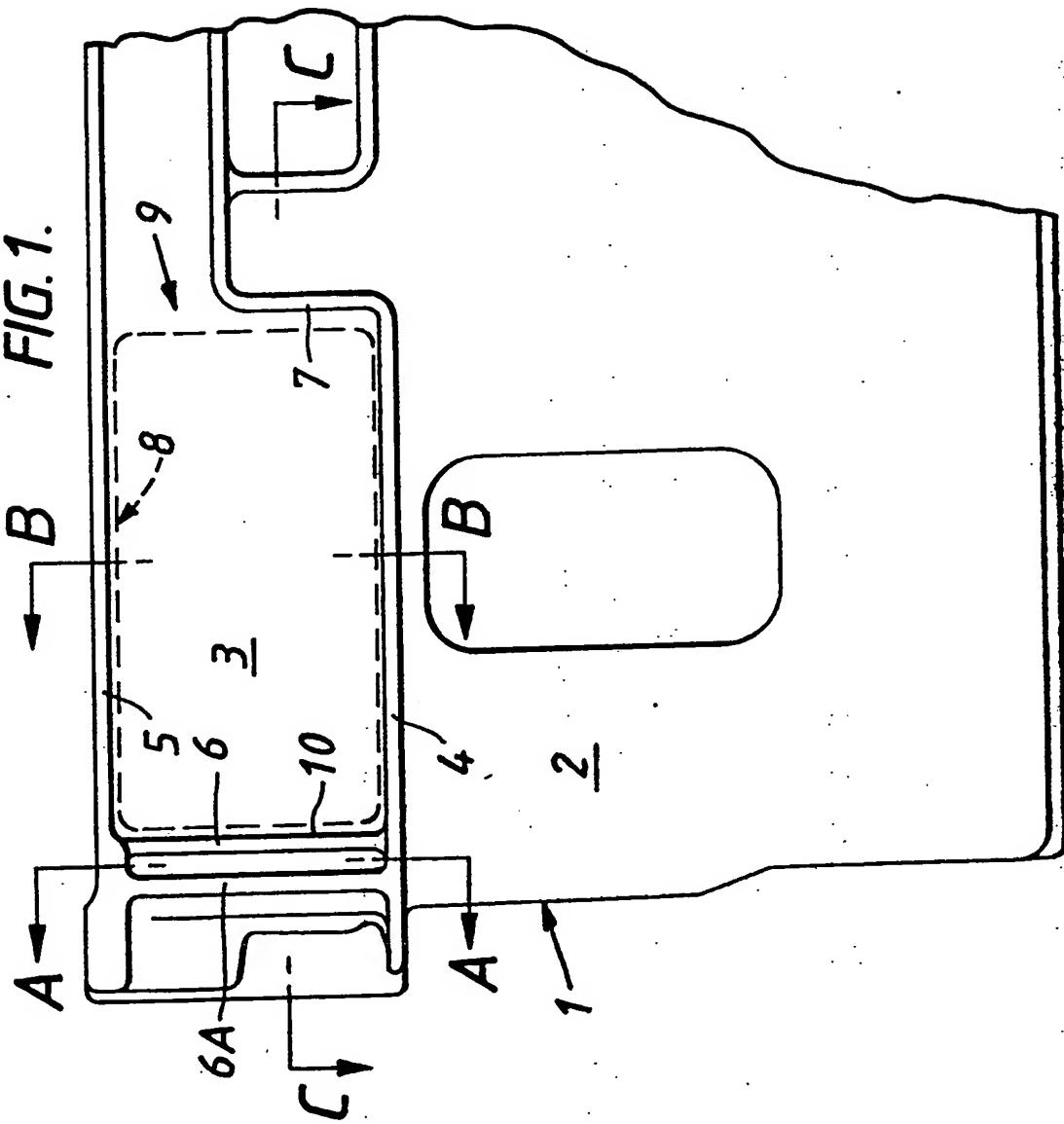


At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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FIG. 1.



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FIG. 2.

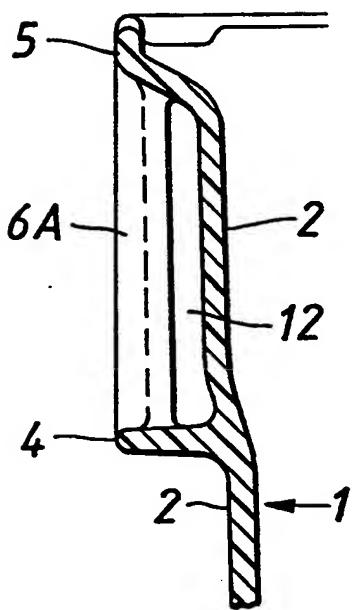


FIG. 3.

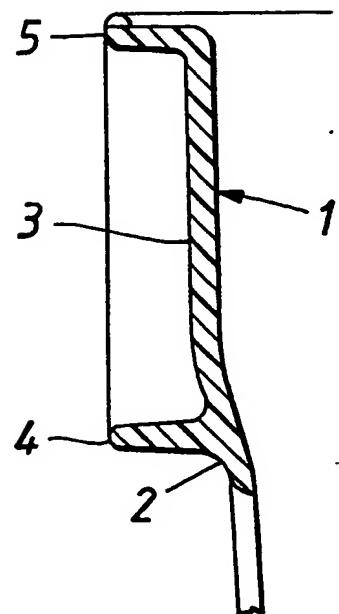
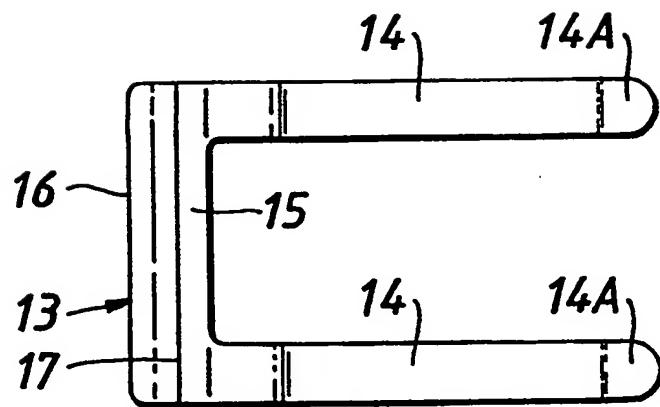


FIG. 4.



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FIG. 5.

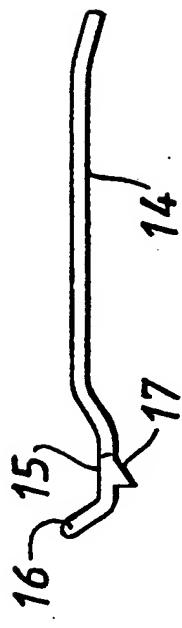
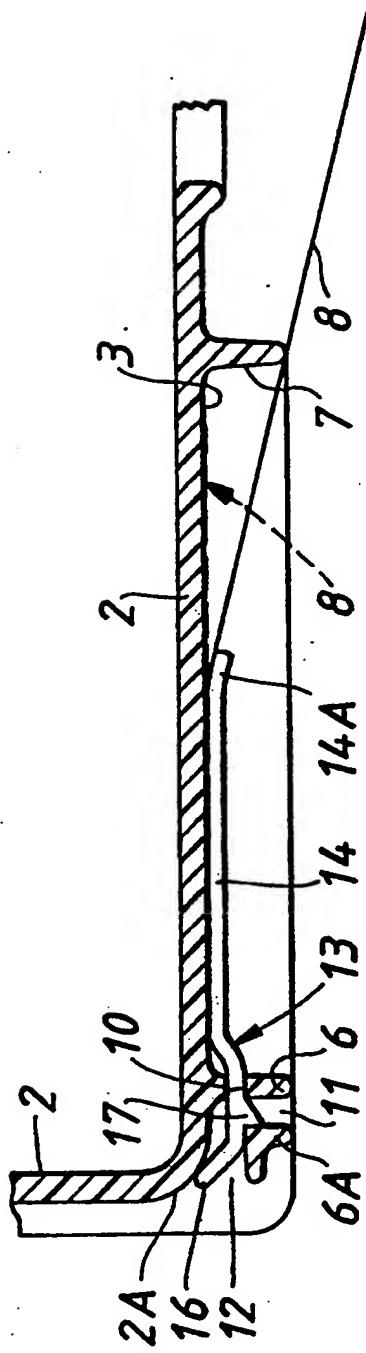


FIG. 6.



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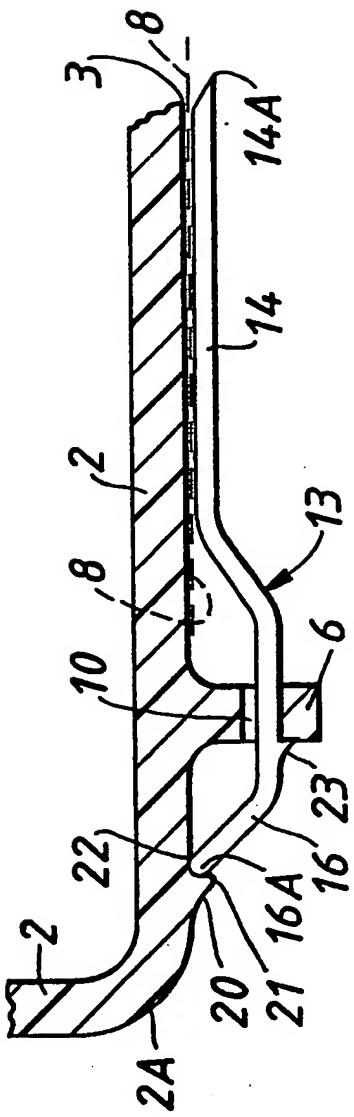


FIG. 7.

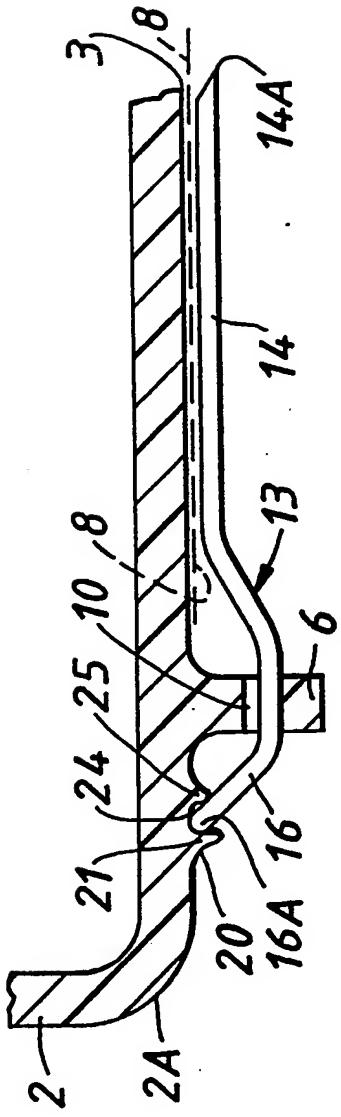


FIG. 8.

TITLE

"A ticket holder assembly"

TECHNICAL FIELD & BACKGROUND ART

The present invention relates to a ticket holder assembly, more particularly it relates to an assembly by which a ticket, label or similar sheet material may be removably retained for display, for example on a side or lid wall part of a container. The invention was primarily developed for use with plastics moulded containers and conventionally many such containers have ticket holders in the form of integrally moulded pockets or recesses within which the ticket is received for display purposes. Occasionally the ticket is retained within the recess beneath a protective transparent sheet. While these holders have been in service for many years, experience has shown that the ticket is often inadequately retained and becomes dislodged during handling of the container. It is an object of the present invention to provide a ticket holder assembly which alleviates the aforementioned disadvantage so that the ticket can be firmly retained and displayed and which assembly is of a relatively simple structure which lends itself to economic manufacture.

STATEMENT OF INVENTION & ADVANTAGES

According to the present invention there is provided a ticket holder assembly comprising a base on which a ticket is to be displayed; a clip having leg means and foot means; retaining means co-operating between the clip and the base to hold the clip to the base and comprising a seating on the base with which the clip engages between its leg means and foot means, and wherein said co-operation of the retaining means provides a reaction which biases the foot means into abutment with the base and biases the leg means of the clip into abutment with the base so that a ticket can be removably retained between the base and the leg means.

By the present invention it is preferred that the co-operation between the base and a portion of clip which includes the foot means will provide a reaction through the seating on the base which applies a couple to the clip to bias the leg means, extending in cantilevered manner from the seating, into abutment with the base. Consequently the aforementioned biasing of the leg means together with the resilience of the material from which the clip is formed may firmly retain a ticket or label on the base beneath the leg means. Usually the base will be cut-away or recessed to provide a convenient access for inserting the ticket into the holder beneath the leg means or for removing the ticket from the holder.

Preferably the retaining means comprises snap engaging co-operation between a portion of the clip and the base during fitting of the clip to the base. As the snap engagement is effected, the foot means may move into abutment with the base or into engagement with recess means in the base to provide the required biasing characteristics.

The seating preferably comprises a slot, conveniently formed in a flange on the base, and through which slot the clip extends for its foot means to be disposed on one side and its leg means to be disposed on the opposite side of the slot.

The clip will usually comprise a substantially U-shape having two legs beneath which the ticket is to be retained while the foot means is located on the bridging portion of the U-shape which interconnects the legs. Typically, the clip will have a generally dog-leg shape in section over the transition region between its foot means and leg means to provide, together with the resilience of the material from which it is formed, the required biasing characteristics when fitted to the base. Desirably the leg or legs of the leg means are generally flat to be

biased into face-to-face contact with a substantially flat facia part of the base on which facia part a ticket is to be displayed.

The assembly of the present invention was primarily developed for manufacture with plastics moulded components; it will be appreciated however that the components may be of a material other than plastics - for example the clip may be formed as a stamping in sheet metal for snap engagement with a plastics moulded base.

10

DRAWINGS

Embodiments of a ticket holder assembly constructed in accordance with the present invention, will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying illustrative drawings in which:-

15 Figure 1 shows the base of a first embodiment of the assembly in the form of a plastics moulded container (of which a relevant side wall part only has been shown);

Figure 2 is a section on the line A - A of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a section on the line B - B of Figure 1;

20 Figure 4 is a plan view of the clip for the first embodiment of the assembly;

Figure 5 is a side view of the clip shown in Figure 4;

Figure 6 is a section of the base taken on the line C - C of Figure 1 and illustrates the clip fitted thereto for 25 the first embodiment of the assembly;

Figure 7 is a similar section to that shown in Figure 6 and illustrates a second embodiment of the assembly, and

Figure 8 is a similar section to that shown in Figure 6 and illustrates a third embodiment of the assembly.

30

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The base 1 shown in Figure 1 comprises a plastics moulded open topped container on an upstanding side wall 2 of which the ticket holder assembly is located. On the upper part of the side wall 2 and externally of the 35 container is moulded a generally rectangular and flat facia

panel 3 formed within a recess presented by opposed side flanges 4 and 5 and opposed end flanges 6 and 7 of the wall 2. A flat ticket, label or card indicated at 8 is intended to be located and retained on the facia panel 3. 5 The end flange 7 stops short of the side flange 5 (or is effectively cut away) to provide an opening 9 which presents an access for convenience of manoeuvring the ticket manually during its location on or removal from the facia panel 3.

10 Located in the end flange 6 adjacent to the facia panel 3 is a slotted aperture 10 (see Figure 6) which extends longitudinally substantially between the side flanges 4 and 5. Moulded in the container 1 to extend parallel with the flange 6 and between the side flanges 4 15 and 5 is a clip retaining bar 6A. The bar 6A is spaced from the flange 6 on the side of that flange remote from the panel 3 to provide a slotted aperture 11 between itself and the flange 6 and a slotted opening 12 between itself and the container wall 2.

20 The clip 13 for the ticket holder assembly is formed as a plastics moulding and has a generally U-shape (see Figure 4) to present two parallel legs 14 interconnected by a bridging portion 15. The clip has a generally thin sheet-like structure (as will be seen from the side view of 25 Figure 5) and is moulded so that the legs 14 are predominantly flat and coplanar while the bridging portion 15 has a generally dog-leg profile in section (see Figure 5) to present a foot part 16 and a retaining part 17 disposed between the foot part and the legs. The 30 retaining part 17 is in the form of a barbed rib or detent which conveniently extends over the length of the bridging portion 15.

The holder is assembled as shown in Figure 6 by inserting the clip 13 with the legs 14 leading successively 35 through the opening 12 (beneath the bar 6A) and through the

slot 10 (in the end flange 6) so that the legs 14 overlie the facia panel 3. During such fitting of the clip the foot part 16 abuts the side wall 2 of the container (conveniently at a corner 2A of that side wall) and the 5 barbed detent snap engages in the slotted aperture 11 and over a shoulder presented by the bar 6A so that the clip is firmly retained on the container and restrained from displacement longitudinally of its legs 14 in either sense of direction. The abutment between the foot part 16 and 10 the side wall 2 biases the clip in a sense to effect the aforementioned snap engagement and also to urge the clip into abutment with the end flange 6 within a seating presented by the slot 10 in which the clip is received. The aforementioned abutment of the foot part 16 and the 15 reaction of the clip against its seating in the flange 6 results in a couple being applied to the clip in a sense which causes the legs 14 to be biased into face-to-face contact with the facia panel 3. This biasing of the legs 14 together with the natural resilience of the plastics for 20 the clip serves to firmly retain the ticket 8 which is slidably located under the legs 14 and on the facia panel to be displayed between those legs. The free ends 14A of the legs are conveniently chamfered or otherwise profiled to provide a lead-in surface to facilitate insertion of the 25 ticket 8 into the holder.

The embodiments of the ticket holder assemblies shown in Figures 7 and 8 are similar in many respects to that shown in Figure 6 (as will be apparent from a comparison of the drawings and references) and as such will not be 30 discussed in detail.

In the assembly of Figure 7 the clip 13 is inserted, with its legs 14 leading, through the slot 10 for the legs 14 to overlie the facia panel 3. During such insertion the distal end 16A of the clip foot part 16 abuts a 35 chamfered face 20 of a rib 21 on the side wall 2 and moves

over this face 20 to engage in a rebate or recess 22 having a shoulder presented by the rib 21. Prior to the end 16A of the foot part engaging with the rebate 22, a stop 23 on the clip 14 remote from its end 16A abuts the side wall 5 flange 6. Because of this latter abutment the material of the clip has to be flexed so that the distal end 16A snap engages behind the shoulder presented by the rib 21 in the rebate 22. The chamfered face 20 provides a convenient lead-in to this snap engagement. The clip 13 is thus 10 firmly retained on the side wall and is restrained from displacement on the side wall longitudinally of its legs in one sense of direction by abutment of the foot part 16 with the rib 21 and in the opposite sense of direction by abutment of the stop 23 with the flange 6. Furthermore, 15 the flexing of the foot part 16 to effect the snap engagement as aforementioned and the subsequent stress to which the clip is subjected between its end 16A and the stop 23, results in a reaction which biases the clip into engagement with its seating in the slot 10 of the flange 6 20 and also causes the legs 14 to be biased towards the facia panel 3 for retention of the ticket 8.

The clip 13 in the embodiment of Figure 8 does not include the stop 23 as shown in Figure 7 and during fitting of the clip through the slot 10 in the flange 6 of Figure 25 8, the clip end 16A moves over the chamfered rib 21 to engage in a groove 24 of the side wall 2 formed between the rib 21 and an adjacent rib 25. The engagement of the clip end 16A in the groove 24 restrains the clip from displacement relative to the side wall 2 longitudinally of 30 its legs 14 in both senses of direction. Furthermore the clip 13 in Figure 8 is profiled so that during its fitting as aforementioned the legs 14 abut and slide over the facia panel 3 to impart stress in the clip so that the resilience of the material of the clip causes a reaction through the 35 seating in the flange slot 10 to effect in snap engagement

between the clip end 16A and the groove 24. Following such snap engagement the stress in the material of the clip is partially retained so that the reaction of the abutment of the clip end 16A in the groove 24, of the clip legs 14 5 with the panel 3 and of the clip with its seating in the flange 6 firmly retains the clip on the side wall 2. It will be appreciated that in achieving such retention of the clip the legs 14 are biased into face-to-face abutment with the facia panel 3 to retain the ticket 8.

CLAIMS

1. A ticket holder assembly comprising a base on which a ticket is to be displayed; a clip having leg means and foot means; retaining means co-operating between the clip 5 and the base to hold the clip to the base and comprising a seating on the base with which the clip engages between its leg means and foot means, and wherein said co-operation of the retaining means provides a reaction which biases the foot means into abutment with the base and biases the leg 10 means of the clip into abutment with the base so that a ticket can be removably retained between the base and the leg means.
2. An assembly as claimed in claim 1 in which the retaining means comprises snap engaging co-operation 15 between the base and a portion of the clip during fitting of the clip to the base.
3. An assembly as claimed in claim 2 in which said snap engaging co-operation is provided between a barbed detent and recess means disposed between the foot means and the 20 leg means.
4. An assembly as claimed in claim 3 in which the barbed detent is provided on the clip and the recess means is provided in the base.
5. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding 25 claims in which the retaining means comprises a distal end of the foot means co-operating with recess means in the base to provide a reaction through the clip between said distal end and the seating which biases the leg means into abutment with the base.
- 30 6. An assembly as claimed in claim 5 in which the distal end of the foot means engages in a groove in the base to restrain displacement of the clip relative to the seating.
7. An assembly as claimed in either claim 5 or claim 6 in which the co-operation of the distal end of the foot means 35 with the recess means in the base restrains displacement of

the clip relative to the seating in one sense of direction and wherein stop means is provided that reacts between the clip and the base at a position on the clip remote from said distal end and which stop means restrains said displacement of the clip in the opposite sense of direction.

8. An assembly as claimed in claim 7 in which the stop means comprises a projection on the clip which abuts the base adjacent to the seating.

10 9. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the seating comprises slot means in the base and through which slot means the clip extends for the foot means to be disposed on one side and the leg means to be disposed on the opposite side of the slot means.

15 10. An assembly as claimed in claim 9 in which the slot means is located in a flange on the base.

11. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the clip comprises a substantially U-shape having two legs beneath which the ticket is to be retained 20 and said foot means is located on a bridging portion of the clip which interconnects the legs.

12. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the clip has substantially flat leg means which are biased into face-to-face contact with a 25 substantially flat facia part of the base and on which facia part the ticket is to be displayed.

13. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the clip is moulded in plastics.

14. An assembly as claimed in any one of the preceding 30 claims in which the base comprises a plastics moulded container.

15. A ticket holder assembly substantially as herein described with reference to Figures 1 to 6 of the accompanying illustrative drawings.

35 16. A ticket holder assembly substantially as herein

described with reference to Figure 7 of the accompanying
illustrative drawings.

17. A ticket holder assembly substantially as herein
described with reference to Figure 8 of the accompanying
5 illustrative drawings.